

WFP Bangladesh

Country Brief

December 2025



Operational Context

WFP has been operating in Bangladesh since 1974. Despite impressive economic progress, food insecurity remains a concern. The latest IPC Acute Food Insecurity analysis (April 2025) indicates that between May and December 2025, 16 million people were projected to be in Crisis level (IPC Phase 3) or worse food insecurity, including 400,000 people – most of them Rohingya refugees – in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).

Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to natural hazards, with most of the population residing in areas prone to floods and cyclones. The 2022-2026 Country Strategic Plan reinforces WFP's commitment to working with the Government to improve the food security, nutrition, and resilience of vulnerable communities, while also providing emergency assistance to people affected by emergencies.

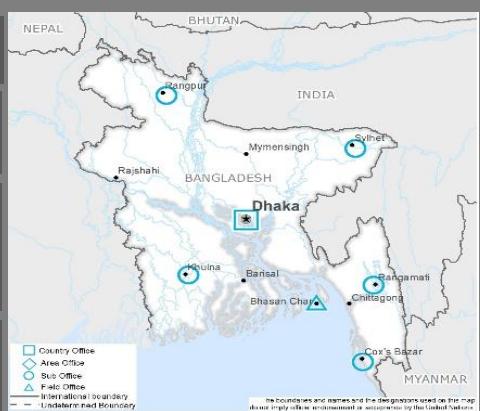
Since 2017, in response to the massive influx of Rohingya people fleeing Myanmar, WFP has been providing critical food, nutrition, resilience, school feeding, and disaster risk reduction (DRR) assistance to the Rohingya population. WFP also supports food insecure Bangladeshi host communities in Cox's Bazar through nutrition, school feeding, livelihoods, and DRR interventions. Since late 2021, WFP has also been supporting Rohingya refugees on Bhasan Char Island, now home to over 37,000 refugees who have been relocated from the camps in Cox's Bazar.

Population:
169 million people

Income Level:
Lower middle

2023-24 Human Development Index:
129 out of 193 countries

Chronic malnutrition:
24 percent of children aged 6-59 months



* Distribution figures for December are subject to change following validation.

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In Numbers

 **7,854.6 mt** of food distributed

 **US\$5.66 million** distributed in cash-based transfers

 **US\$58.13 million** net funding requirements (Jan – June 2026)

 **1.138 million** people assisted*



Operational Updates

Rohingya Refugee Response

- In December, WFP continued providing monthly food assistance to more than 1.1 million Rohingya refugees, including approximately 138,000 new arrivals over 2024-2025. Through Fresh Food Corners (FFC), more than 480,000 Rohingya of the most vulnerable received additional support, with USD 3 fresh food vouchers aimed to improve dietary diversity. In addition, 173,067 children aged 6-59 months and 45,750 pregnant and breastfeeding women received nutrition services. Among them, 4,000 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition received treatment services.
- Under school feeding, WFP distributed 184.2 mt of fortified biscuits to 257,774 children across learning centres in both Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char camps.
- On the evening of 28 December, a fire broke out in Camp 24 in Cox's Bazar, destroying dozens of shelters. As an immediate response, WFP provided fortified biscuits and more than 3,400 packs of hot meals to affected families. This support continued for one week until the families were able to cook again.

Technical Assistance

- On 15 December 2025, WFP brought together key Government partners for the first joint session on creating a fortified rice inspection system for the commercial market. Meanwhile, WFP continued supporting the Government in distributing fortified rice under the Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) social safety net programme, reaching approximately 2.4 million people across 161 upazilas (subdistricts) in 2025.
- With support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, WFP finalized all preparations needed to launch its new school feeding programme in Madhabpur Upazila, Habiganj District, Sylhet. This includes partner trainings, commodity vendor selection, and the establishment of mothers' groups. From January 2026, the programme will reach over 30,000 children in 149 government primary schools and is a complement to the recently launched National School Feeding Programme, which is not yet active in this District.

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.58 bn	1.17 bn	58.13 m

Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Outcome 1: Populations affected by crisis in Bangladesh are able to meet basic food, nutrition and other essential needs during and after crises.

Focus: Crisis response

Activity 1: Provide food, nutrition, and self-reliance assistance to crisis-affected populations.

Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Outcome 2: By 2026, the nutrition needs of women, children and vulnerable groups in Bangladesh are met through national institutions that have enhanced capacities to design and implement gender- and nutrition-sensitive social safety net programmes.

Focus: Root causes

Activity 2: Support national institutions in strengthening their capacity to design and implement inclusive and nutrition- and gender-sensitive safety net programmes to meet the nutrition needs of women, children and vulnerable groups.

Result 4: Food Systems are Sustainable

Outcome 3: By 2026, vulnerable communities in Bangladesh are more resilient to shocks and natural disasters owing to enhanced national disaster management capacity and flexible, nutrition- and gender-sensitive social safety net programmes.

Focus: Resilience building

Activity 3: Assist national institutions and communities in strengthening their capacity to implement inclusive, responsive and nutrition- and gender-sensitive safety net programmes and in disaster risk preparedness and response to protect the food security and nutrition of vulnerable populations.

Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Outcome 4: Vulnerable crisis-affected populations in Bangladesh benefit from enhanced coordination and improved common services during and after crises.

Focus: Crisis response

Activity 4: Provide coordination and common services to humanitarian and development partners and the Government.



WFP, with government and NGO partners observed the 16 Days of Activism with the theme "End Digital Violence Against All Women and Girls," engaging children and communities in activities like art contests, rallies, and discussion. Photo: WFP

- On 1 December 2025, WFP held an awareness session for NGO staff on the theme *"Fostering disability-inclusive societies for advancing social progress"*. Medical experts and special educators provided actionable guidance on early detection and intervention for autism and developmental delays, inclusive education, access to assistive devices, and family empowerment to help children with disabilities thrive in inclusive settings.

Resilience and Innovation

- On 1 December, WFP, in partnership with Bangladesh Meteorological Department, convened a coordination meeting with Early Warning for All (EW4All) key stakeholders to advance project initiatives aligned with the EW4All Roadmap.
- WFP supported the Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group in organizing the kickoff workshop for the National Anticipatory Action Framework, in December. The workshop brought together government agencies, UN partners, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, I/NGOs, academia and donors to jointly contribute to shaping the framework.
- On 22 December, WFP joined Oxfam and the Economic Reporters' Forum (ERF) for a workshop on climate risk insurance (CRI), supported by the European Union. The event brought together more than 80 senior economic and environmental journalists, government regulators, climate experts and CRI specialists to discuss how insurance solutions can help protect vulnerable communities from climate-related shocks.

Funding Sources

Government Donors: Australia, Bangladesh (World Bank funding), Belgium, Canada, China, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the United States of America.

Other Funding Sources: The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and other UN funds, the WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund, and private donations.